

**In the claims**

1. (amended) An apparatus, comprising:  
  
a first inlet, said first inlet adapted to be coupled with a downspout, said  
  
downspout having a downspout inlet and a downspout outlet;  
  
a first outlet, said first outlet disposed at a location on said apparatus subsequent  
  
to said first inlet; ~~and~~  
  
one or more fluid treatment elements adapted to treat fluid passing through said  
  
apparatus, at least one of said one or more fluid treatment elements  
  
disposed at a location between said first inlet and said first outlet, wherein  
  
at least one of said one or more fluid treatment elements comprises a filter  
  
basket; and  
  
a primary bypass, said primary bypass adapted to provide a first alternative route  
  
for fluid to pass through said apparatus.
2. (cancelled)
3. (amended) The apparatus of claim [[2]]1, wherein said filter element comprises a  
filter cartridge.
4. (original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said one or more fluid treatment  
elements comprises a plurality of filter cartridges.

5. (original)The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first inlet is coupled with said downspout at a location on said downspout subsequent to said downspout inlet.
6. (original)The apparatus of claim 5, wherein said first outlet is coupled with said downspout at a location on said downspout prior to said downspout outlet.
7. (original)The apparatus of claim 6, wherein said apparatus is entirely inserted into said downspout at a location between said downspout inlet and said downspout outlet.
8. (original)The apparatus of claim 7, wherein such insertion involves the cutting of said downspout at the location of insertion.
9. (original)The apparatus of claim 7, wherein such insertion involves the removal of a section of downspout at the location of insertion.
10. (original)The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:  
an outer housing, said outer housing adapted to contain at least one of said one or more fluid treatment elements.
11. (cancelled)
12. (amended)The apparatus of claim 1 [[1]], wherein said primary bypass passes fluid through said apparatus via said first alternative route during periods when at least

one of said one or more filtration elements are unable to handle the volume of fluid passing through said apparatus.

13. (amended)The apparatus of claim 1[[1]], further comprising:  
a secondary bypass distinct from said primary bypass, said secondary bypass  
adapted to provide a second alternative route for fluid to pass through said  
apparatus.
14. (original)The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:  
a second outlet, said second outlet adapted to direct fluid away from said  
downspout.
15. (original)The apparatus of claim 14, wherein at least a portion of fluid passing  
through said second outlet is water that has been treated to be of sufficient quality  
for personal or commercial use.
16. (original)The apparatus of claim 14, wherein at least a portion of fluid passing  
through said second outlet is potable water.
17. (original)The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:  
one or more applications of chitosan disposed at one or more locations about said  
apparatus.

18. (original)The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:  
a valve, said valve adapted to direct fluid toward said downspout outlet, toward  
some other destination, or both.
19. (amended) A downspout filter, comprising:  
a first inlet, said first inlet adapted to be coupled with a downspout, said  
downspout having a downspout inlet and a downspout outlet;  
a first outlet, said first outlet disposed at a location on said downspout filter  
subsequent to said first inlet; ~~and~~  
one or more fluid treatment elements adapted to treat fluid passing through said  
downspout filter wherein said one or more fluid treatment elements  
comprises a filter basket; and  
a first bypass, said first bypass adapted to provide an alternative route for fluid to  
pass through said downspout filter.
20. (canceled)
21. (amended) The downspout filter of claim [[20]] 19, wherein said filter element  
comprises a filter cartridge.
22. (original)The downspout filter of claim 19, wherein said one or more fluid  
treatment elements comprises a plurality of filter cartridges.

23. (original)The downspout filter of claim 19, wherein said first inlet is coupled with said downspout at a location on said downspout subsequent to said downspout inlet, and wherein said first outlet is coupled with said downspout at a location on said downspout prior to said downspout outlet.
24. (amended)The downspout filter of claim 19, further comprising:  
a housing, said housing adapted to contain at least one of said one or more fluid treatment elements;  
~~a first bypass, said first bypass adapted to provide an alternative route for fluid to pass through said downspout filter;~~  
a second outlet, said second outlet adapted to direct fluid away from said downspout; and  
a valve, said valve adapted to direct fluid toward said downspout outlet, toward said second outlet, or both.
25. (amended)The downspout filter of claim ~~[[22]]~~24, wherein at least a portion of fluid passing through said second outlet is water of sufficient quality for personal or commercial use.
26. (amended)The downspout filter of claim ~~[[23]]~~24, wherein at least a portion of water passing through said second outlet is potable water.
27. (original)The downspout filter of claim 19, further comprising:

one or more applications of chitosan disposed at one or more locations about said downspout filter.

28. (amended)The downspout filter of claim 19, further comprising:  
a secondary bypass distinct from said ~~primary~~ first bypass, said secondary bypass adapted to provide a second alternative route for fluid to pass through said downspout filter.
29. (amended)An apparatus, comprising:  
a means for receiving fluid from a downspout, said downspout having a downspout inlet and a downspout outlet;  
a means for passing said fluid out of said apparatus; ~~and~~  
a means for treating said fluid as it passes through said apparatus, said means for treating said fluid being disposed at a location between said downspout inlet and said downspout outlet wherein said fluid treatment means comprises a filter basket; and  
a primary means for bypassing said fluid treating means, said primary bypassing means adapted to provide a first alternative route for fluid to pass through said apparatus.
30. (original)The apparatus of claim 29, wherein said means for passing passes said fluid back into said downspout.
31. (cancelled)

32. (amended)The apparatus of claim ~~[[31]]~~30, wherein said filter element comprises a filter cartridge.
33. (cancelled)
34. (amended)The apparatus of claim ~~[[33]]~~29, wherein said primary fluid bypassing means passes fluid through said apparatus via said first alternative route during periods when said fluid treatment means is unable to handle the volume of fluid passing through said apparatus.
35. (amended)The apparatus of claim ~~[[33]]~~29, further comprising:  
a secondary means for bypassing said fluid treatment means, said secondary  
bypassing means adapted to provide a second alternative route for fluid to  
pass through said apparatus.
36. (original)The apparatus of claim 29, wherein at least a portion of fluid passing though said downspout outlet is water that has been treated to be sufficient quality for personal or commercial use.
37. (original)The apparatus of claim 29, wherein at least a portion of fluid passing out of said passing means is potable water.
38. (original)The apparatus of claim 29, further comprising:

a means for applying chitosan disposed at one or more locations about said apparatus.

39. (original)The apparatus of claim 29, further comprising:  
a diverting means, said diverting means adapted to direct fluid toward said downspout outlet, toward some other destination, or both.
40. (amended)A method of treating water runoff, comprising:  
diverting storm water from one or more surfaces of an elevated structure to one or more water collection points;  
passing said water from at least one of said one or more water collection points into a water filtration inlet;  
filtering at least a portion of said water wherein said filtering comprises passing said water through a filter basket;  
providing an a bypass route for said water to pass through;  
and  
passing said filtered water through a water filtration outlet.
41. (amended)A method for treating fluid, comprising:  
selecting a downspout, said downspout having a downspout inlet and a downspout outlet;  
inserting a downspout filter into said downspout, said downspout filter having a first inlet adapted to be coupled with said downspout, a first outlet



disposed at a location subsequent to said first inlet, a bypass adapted to provide an alternate route for fluid to pass through said downspout filter and one or more fluid treatment elements adapted to treat fluid passing through said downspout filter wherein said one or more fluid treatment elements comprise a filter basket;

and

permitting fluid to pass through said downspout.

42. (original)The method of claim 41, further comprising the steps of:  
directing at least a portion of said fluid from said downspout into said downspout filter; and  
passing at least a portion of said fluid through said downspout filter.
43. (original)The method of claim 42, further comprising the step of:  
directing at least a portion of said fluid from said downspout filter back into said downspout after said fluid has passed through said downspout filter.
44. (original)The method of claim 42, further comprising the step of:  
directing at least a portion of said fluid from said downspout filter toward a second outlet of said downspout filter after said fluid has passed through said downspout filter.